

CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS OF 1762,

OR

CONSTITUTIONS

OF THE

RITE OF PERFECTION,

AFTERWARDS OF THE

COUNCIL OF EMPERORS OF THE EAST AND WEST,

THE SYSTEM THEN INCLUDING

TWENTY-FIVE DEGREES.

CONSTITUTIONS OF 1762.

PRELIMINARY.

BY ENOCH T. CARSON, 33°.

In editing these constitutions we have used the following copies : 1st. The old manuscript in the archives of the Supreme Council for the northern jurisdiction, and printed in our proceedings in 1882. 2d. The copy published in the "Recueil des Actes du Supreme Conseil de France, Paris," 1832. 3d. The copy published by Ill. Bro. Albert Pike, in 1872. We have made free use of his translation.

In Nos. 1 and 3 the governing body is styled the "Sovereign Grand Council of Princes," etc. We have adopted the reading in this particular of No. 2, in the "Recueil des Actes," etc., "Sovereign Grand Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret." This title appears to us to be more in harmony with the spirit and even the letter of the constitutions, especially the addendas, the "Institutes," "Statutes," and "General Regulations."

No. 1, the old manuscript, says, "Drawn up at Berlin"; No. 2, Recueil des Actes, says, "Drawn up at the Grand Orient of Bordeaux"; and No. 3, Bro. Pike's version, says, "Drawn up at the Orients of Paris and Berlin." We followed No. 1. It is obviously the only reading that will harmonize with the text that follows. We have not in this edition followed any one copy, but have edited and compiled it from the three copies named.

These Constitutions first appeared entire in print in French in the "Recueil des Actes du Supreme Conseil," Paris, 1832.

They were next printed in French and English in New Orleans in 1859, by authority of the Grand Consistory of Louisiana. An edition in English was published in New York in 1862, and lastly in French and English by Bro. Albert Pike, New York, 1872.

REGULATIONS AND CONSTITUTIONS

DRAWN UP BY NINE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE

SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY,

OF THE

Sublime Knights Princes of the Royal Secret and Princes of Masonry.

AT THE GRAND EAST OF BERLIN THE FIFTH DAY OF THE THIRD
WEEK OF THE SEVENTH MONTH OF THE HEBREW ERA,
5562, AND OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA, 1762.

To be Ratified and Observed by the Said Sovereign Grand Consistory of Sublime Knights and Princes of Masonry, as well as by all Subordinate Councils and Grand Inspectors regularly constituted in both Hemispheres. *

It is known that all associations have been greatly benefited by the constant labor of the Sublime Knights and Princes of Masonry, therefore too great precaution cannot be taken to maintain [our order] unimpaired in its dignity, to perpetuate its excellent maxims, and to preserve them from those abuses that ever seek to obtain foothold.

Although this Royal and Sublime Order has always sustained itself in honor and credit, by the wisdom and prudence of its Secret Constitutions as ancient as the world, the depravity of the present age renders it necessary and proper to make therein such reforms and alterations as are suitable and necessary to the age in which we live.

The mode of life of the early Patriarchs who were created and reared in the bosom of Perfection, presents quite a different picture from that of our modern manners. In those happy days Purity, Innocence and Candor

* Transmitted to our respectable Bro. . Stephen Morin, Grand Inspector of all Lodges in the new world. *Old Manuscript.*

naturally guided the hearts of men towards Justice and Perfection ; but the depravity of morals, caused by the irregularities of the heart and intellect, have in the course of time destroyed all the virtues; Innocence and Candor, which are their basis, have insensibly disappeared, and left the human race abandoned to the horrors and misery of injustice and imperfection.

But, nevertheless, vice did not generally prevail among the true Patriarchs—the first Knights, they escaped the numerous shoals that threatened them with shipwreck, and maintained themselves in that happy condition of innocence, justice and perfection which they fortunately transmitted to their posterity from age to age, revealing the sacred mysteries to those only whom they judged worthy ; into which mysteries the Eternal has been pleased to permit us to be initiated.

Therefore, in order to maintain ourselves, as well as all our Sublime Knights and Princes of the Sublime Masonry, our Brethren, in that happy state and condition, and by their advice it has been resolved, settled and determined, that in addition to the Ancient and Secret Constitutions of the august Order of the Sublime Princes of Masonry, which are to be forever punctually and religiously observed, and shall never be communicated to profane Christians nor to Masons below the degrees of Knight of the East, of Princes of Jerusalem, Grand Patriarch Noachite, Knight of the Royal Arch, Prince Adept and Commander of the Black Eagle ; to the end that by this precaution it may be made certain that they do possess the qualities necessary to warrant admission to the Sublime degree.

These Constitutions and Regulations are to be punctually executed and observed in all their points and articles as follows :

ARTICLE I.

Forasmuch as Religion is a worship necessarily due to the Omnipotent God, no person shall be initiated into the Sacred Mysteries of this eminent degree unless he performs the duties required of him by the religion of his country, where it is necessary he shall have learned its venerable principles ; nor unless that is certified by three Knights, Princes Masons ; nor unless he is born of free parents ; nor unless he has conducted himself well, and enjoys a good reputation, and has, as such, been admitted into all the preceding degrees of Masonry, nor unless he has at all times given proofs of his obedience, docility, zeal, fervor and constancy ; nor, finally, unless he is free to take upon himself the obligations of Venerable Knight-

hood when admitted to the sublime degree of High Perfection, and also free punctually to obey the Sovereign Grand Commander, his Officers, and the Sovereign and Puissant Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes, when assembled.

ARTICLE II.

The Royal Art, or the Society of Free and Accepted Masons, is generally divided into twenty-five known and approved degrees. The first is below the second, the second below the third, and so on in successive progression to the twenty-fifth, which is the *sublime and last degree that governs and commands all the others without exception!* The whole of the degrees are divided into seven classes, through which no one can be excused from passing, nor from observing punctually the order of times and the distances fixed between each degree, divided by mysterious numbers, as follows:

1st Class.		{	1. To attain the degree of Ent. Apprentice.....	3 mos.	
3 Degrees.			2. From Apprentice to Fellow Craft.....	5 "	
			3. From Fellow Craft to Master.....	7 "	
				<hr/>	15 " 3x5.
2d Class.	{	4. From Master to Secret Master	3 mos.		
		5. From Secret Master to Perfect Master	3 "		
		6. From Perf. Master to Intimate Secretary....	3 "		
		7. From Intimate Sec. to Provost and Judge...	5 "		
		8. From Provost and Judge to Intendant of the Buildings.....	7 "		
				<hr/>	21 "
3d Class.	{	9. From Intend. of the Buildings to Elect of the 9.....	3 mos.		
		10. From Elect of the 9 to Elect of the 15	3 "		
		11. From Elect of the 15 to Sublime Knight Elect.....	1 "		
				<hr/>	7 "
4th Class.	{	12. From Sublime Knight Elect to the Grand Master Architect.....	1 mos.		
		13. From the Grand Master Architect to the Knight of the Royal Arch.....	3 "		
		14. From the Knight of the Royal Arch to the Grand Elect Ancient Perfect Master or Perfection.....	1 "		
				<hr/>	5 "

5th Class. 5 Degrees.	{	15. From Perfection to the Knight of the East or of the Sword.....	1 mos.
		16. From Knight of the East to Prince of Jeru- salem	1 “
		17. From Prince of Jerusalem to Knight of the East and West.....	3 “
		18. From Knight of the East and West to Knight of Rose Croix	1 “
		19. From Knight of Rose Croix to Grand Pontiff Master <i>ad vitam</i>	3 “
			—
			9 “
6th Class. 3 Degrees.	{	20. From Grand Pontiff to Grand Patriarch Noachite	3 mos.
		21. From Grand Patriarch Noachite to Grand Master of the Key of Masonry	3 “
		22. From the Key of Masonry to Prince of Libanus or Royal Axe.....	3 “
			—
			9 “
7th Class. 3 Degrees.	{	23. From Royal Axe to Sov. Prince Adept.....	5 mos.
		24. From Prince Adept to the Ill. Knight Com. of the White and Black Eagle	5 “
		25. From the Knight of the White and Black Eagle to the Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret.	5 “
			—
			15 “

All these degrees, into which we can only be initiated in a mysterious number of months, to arrive at each in due succession, make the number in all of 81 months.

8 and 1 make 9, as 8 and 1 express 81, as 9 times 9 make 81 ; all *perfect numbers*, and quite different from 1 and 8, which makes 9, as 1 and 8 indicate 18, twice 9 makes 18 ; for these are *imperfect numbers*, and their combination is imperfect, but a Freemason who has filled his time will at last gather the Masonic rose ; but if, during any one of the periods, a Brother has been wanting in zeal and obedience, he can obtain no more degrees until he has submitted to discipline, implored pardon for his fault, and promised the utmost punctuality and exemplary obedience, under the penalty of being forever excluded, and of having his name erased and struck from the list of true and legitimate Brethren.

ARTICLE III.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret is composed of all the Presidents of the several Councils particularly and regularly established, in the cities of Paris and Berlin,* with the Sovereign of the Sovereigns, or his Deputy General or Representative at their head.

ARTICLE IV.

The Sovereign and Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret shall assemble four times a year, and be styled the Grand Quarterly Council of Communication, held on the 25th of June, the 21st of September, the 21st of March, and the 27th of December.

ARTICLE V.

On the 25th of June the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be composed of all the Presidents of the several Councils of Paris and Berlin, or of their representatives, for that day only, with their first two Grand Officers, the Ministers of State and Generals of the Army, who have only the right to propose measures, but not to debate.

ARTICLE VI.

Every three years, on the 27th of December, the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall elect 17 officers, to wit :

- 2 Representatives of the Lieutenant Commander.
- 2 Grand officers, who are the Grand Orator and the General of the Army.
- 1 Grand Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
- 1 Grand Secretary General.
- 1 Secretary for Paris and Berlin.
- 1 Grand Secretary for the Provinces and Foreign Countries.
- 1 Grand Architect Engineer.
- 1 Grand Hospitaler Physician.
- 7 Inspectors, who shall meet under the orders of the Sovereign of the Sovereign Princes, or his Substitute General.

* So in the old manuscript. Pike says Paris and Bordeaux. The "Actes du Supreme Conseil" same as Pike.

Making 17 in all, at which shall remain irrevocably fixed the number of Grand Officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, who can be elected only from among the Presidents of the Subordinate Councils of the Princes of Jerusalem regularly established at Paris and Berlin; and upon failure of the Sovereign and the Sublime Grand Consistory to make the election, the Sovereign of the Sovereign Princes, or his Deputy General, may, by virtue of his office, appoint the officers in a Grand Consistory specially convoked, of at least 18 resident Princes of the Subordinate Councils of the cities of Paris and Berlin.

ARTICLE VII.

Every Prince, Grand Officer, or Dignitary of the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall have a patent of the dignity to which he shall have been elevated, in which shall be expressed the term for which he is appointed, countersigned by all the Grand Officers, and by those of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes, and stamped and sealed.

ARTICLE VIII.

Besides the four quarterly communications, there shall be held within the first ten days of each month, by the Grand Officers—Dignitaries only—the Sovereign Consistories of the Sublime Princes, a council for the Regulation of the general and special affairs of the order with right of appeal to the Grand Council of Communication.

ARTICLE IX.

In the Assembly of the Grand Quarterly Council of Communication, as also in the Subordinate Councils, all questions shall be decided by plurality of votes; the President having two votes, and every other member one.

If a Brother is allowed to sit in such assembly, by special permission only, even if he be a sublime Prince, but not a member of the Grand Consistory, he shall have no vote, and shall express his views only by permission of the President.

ARTICLE X.

All matters referred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime

Princes shall be determined in the Consistory, and the regulations shall be executed, subject to ratification, however, by the next Council of Communication.

ARTICLE XI.

Whenever the Grand Council of Communication is held, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to bring up all the current records, and report all the deliberations had, and regulations made during the quarter, that they may be ratified ; and if there be any opposition made to such ratification, a committee of nine shall be appointed, before which those who object shall set forth in *writing* the grounds of their objection, that they may be answered in *writing* ; and that, upon the report of the Committee, the matter may be settled in the next Grand Council of Communication ; and in the interval between such deliberation and the final discussion, that to which objection is made shall, by a mandate, be executed.

ARTICLE XII.

The Grand Secretary-General shall keep a Register for Berlin and Paris, and another for the Province and Foreign Countries, containing the names of the Subordinate Councils in the order of their seniority, the dates of their charters, and a statement of the names, degrees, dignities, civil conditions and places of residence of their members, conformably to the forms transmitted by our Inspectors or their Deputies, and of the right of precedence of each Council, and also the number of regular Lodges of Perfection established under the government of our Inspectors, or that of the Consistory of the Sublime Princes, the titles of their Lodges, the dates of their charter and a statement of the titles, degrees, officers, dignities, civil conditions and places of residence of the members, conformably to those furnished by our Inspectors or their Deputies.

The day for the reception of the President in the Subordinate Councils shall be fixed in the Grand Council of Communication.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Grand Secretary shall also keep a record containing all the decisions and regulations of the Grand Council of Quarterly Communication, in which shall be stated all the matters determined in such Council, all the letters received, and the substance of the answer determined on to each.

ARTICLE XIV.

The Grand Secretary shall endorse on the margin of all petitions, letters and memoirs read to the Council, the substance of the answer agreed on, which answers shall, when written, be signed by the Grand Inspector-General or his Deputy, by the Secretary of the proper jurisdiction and by the Grand Keeper of the Seals ; and then the Grand Secretary shall himself stamp and seal it and transmit the answer. But as it may not be practicable to do this while the Council is in session, and as it may sometimes be dangerous to delay answering until the next Council, he shall produce the minute of the answer, that it may be read in the next Council, and shall deliver all that relates thereto to the Keeper of the Archives, that the Sovereign Grand Consistory may therein make such corrections as to it may seem proper.

ARTICLE XV.

A Subordinate Consistory, whether in the cities of Berlin or Paris, in the Provinces or elsewhere, shall have no power to grant Constitutions and Regulations, unless they be authorized under sign and seal to do so by the SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY, the Grand Inspector or his Deputy.

ARTICLE XVI.

The Grand Keeper of the Seals and Stamps shall not stamp nor seal any letter before it has been signed by the Secretary-General, and by two Secretaries of different jurisdictions ; nor can he stamp or seal any regulations that have not been signed by the Grand Inspector or his Deputy, and by said three Secretaries ; and he can neither stamp nor seal any Charter of Constitution that has not first been signed by the said three Grand Officers and by other Princes, to the number in all of seven at least, members of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes.

ARTICLE XVII.

The Grand Treasurer should be known to be a person of easy fortune. He shall have charge of all the funds received on account of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or given by way of charity. He shall keep an exact record of all receipts, expenditures and charities, carefully distinguishing each, showing how the moneys in each case have been expended, the funds of the Sovereign Grand Consistory and those for charitable purposes being

always kept separate. A receipt shall be given for each sum received, which shall refer to the number of the folio of his register where it is entered ; and no moneys shall be paid out except on the written order of the President, and of the two Grand Officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE XVIII.

At the first assembly of the Sovereign Grand Consistory after the 27th of December, the Grand Treasurer shall lay before it his accounts.

ARTICLE XIX.

No order on the Treasurer for moneys shall be given, except by the President or the two Grand Officers, and then only on a resolution of the Grand Consistory, which shall be mentioned in the order.

None of the funds of the Consistory shall ever be used to pay for banquets ; they shall always be paid for by voluntary contributions from the Brethren !

ARTICLE XX.

When any memoir, petition or complaint is sent to the Sovereign Grand Consistory by a Subordinate Council, the President whereof is a member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, *he cannot vote, nor even express his opinion, unless requested to do so* by the President of the body.

ARTICLE XXI.

The Grand Inspectors and Deputies, and the two first Grand Officers can be removed from office only by the Grand Council of Quarterly Communication of the Princess of the Royal Secret, for legitimate reasons openly discussed, and when the proofs against them are clear and conclusive ; but these officers may resign from the Grand Council.

The Grand Inspectors and Deputies can be replaced only by appointment of the Sovereign or Sovereigns, and the most Puissant Prince, President of the Grand Council of Quarterly Communication.

ARTICLE XXII.

The Grand Consistory* will visit the Subordinate Councils and Lodges of Perfection through the Deputies, Inspectors, or, in their place, through

* This appears to have been subordinate to the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

persons specially appointed for the purpose, who shall report *in writing* to the Secretary-General all that occurs on their visitation, that the Sovereign Grand Consistory may be informed thereof. The Grand Inspector or Deputy shall inspect the work, the registers, charters and lists of members of such Councils and Lodges of Perfection, and shall draw up a statement thereof, which shall be signed by the Officers—Dignitaries of said Councils or Lodges of Perfection, or other bodies—and which he shall forward to the Sovereign Grand Consistory as soon as possible, addressed to the Grand Secretary-General.

He shall preside in such Grand Councils, Lodges of Perfection and other bodies whenever he sees fit, without objection on the part of any Brother whatever, under the penalties due to disobedience, and that of interdiction, for such is our good pleasure.

ARTICLE XXIII.

When the Grand Consistory is regularly convoked, seven members shall suffice to open the works at the time fixed, and the regulations then made and passed by a plurality of votes shall have the force of law as fully as if the other members had been present. In case of emergency, the Grand Inspector, or his Deputy, with three members, may proceed with the work.

ARTICLE XXIV.

If in a meeting of a Grand Council any member should present himself in an indecent manner, intoxicated, or should commit any act tending to interrupt the harmony that ought to reign in so respectable a body, he shall, for the first offense, be reprimanded ; for the second a fine shall be imposed, to be *paid forthwith*, and for the third he shall be deprived of his dignities, and if a majority of the Grand Council so decide, he shall be *expelled*.

ARTICLE XXV.

If in the Grand Consistory any member be guilty of any of the offenses mentioned in the preceding article, he shall, for the first offense, be condemned to pay immediately such a fine as may be imposed on him ; for the second offense, he shall be excluded from the General Assembly for the space of one year, during which time he shall be deprived of his functions in the Consistory, and in the Lodge whereof he is a member ; and for the third offense he shall be expelled.

If he be the President of the Subordinate Council or Lodge, he shall be deprived of his office, which will be filled by a new appointment, whatever may be the degree of his Council or Lodge.

ARTICLE XXVI.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory will recognize as regular no other Councils or Lodges of Perfection than those regularly constituted by itself, or by the Grand Inspectors or their Deputies ; nor will it recognize Knights, Masons, Princes, or Perfect Grand Elus that have been made such by any Council or Lodge not duly authorized.

ARTICLE XXVII.

All petitions to the Sovereign Grand Consistory for letters of constitution, or for the establishment of regularization of a Council or Lodge, shall be referred as follows : If from a Province, to the Inspectors for that jurisdiction, who shall thereupon appoint four Commissioners, to obtain all the necessary information, to which end they shall furnish to the Inspectors or their Deputy for that jurisdiction an exact list of the members applying for the establishment of such Council or Lodge of Perfection, etc., to the end that, upon the report of such Commissioner, or upon that of the Grand Inspector or his Deputy, the Grand Consistory may decide upon the application. If from a foreign country, the proper Grand Inspectors may, each within his jurisdiction, create, constitute, prohibit, revoke and exclude, according as their judgment may direct, sending up full report of their action in the premises to the Sovereign Consistory by the first favorable opportunity ; and the said Inspectors shall conform to the laws and customs, as also to the Secret Constitutions of the Sovereign Grand Consistory. They may, for greater dispatch, appoint Deputies to act for them, empowering them by letters patent, which shall have force and validity.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory will not grant charters to establish a Royal Lodge of Perfection to any Brother who has not attained at least to the degree of Prince of Jerusalem, and the same to establish a Council of Knights of the East. To obtain authority to establish a Council of Princes of Jerusalem, the Brother must necessarily have the degree of Sublime Knight Prince Adept, and must prove by authentic documents that he has been legitimately and regularly received as such, and he must show that he

has always led and enjoyed an honest income and exemplary life, free from reproach, and been distinguished by a good reputation and upright course of conduct; and that he has ever been obedient to the decrees of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Princes of the Royal Secret.

ARTICLE XXIX.

Sovereign Consistory of Sublime Princes will grant no new Patents or Constitutions, whether for Berlin or Paris, for a Province or for Foreign Countries, unless upon the production of a receipt of the Grand Treasurer for the sum of twenty-four shillings, to pay the persons employed in that labor. The Grand Inspectors of Foreign Orients will observe the same rule in similar cases. All traveling expenses which they are obliged to make are to be defrayed. Moreover, they will deliver neither commission nor power to any Prince Mason until he has first signed his submission in the register of the Grand Secretary-General, of the Grand Inspector or his Deputy, and in a Province or a Foreign Country in those of our Inspectors or Deputies. It is even necessary that such submission be both written and signed by such Brother.

ARTICLE XXX.

If the Inspectors or Deputies see fit to visit anywhere in the two Hemispheres, a Grand Council of the Princes of Jerusalem, a Council of Knights of the East, a Lodge of Perfection, or any other body whatsoever, they will present themselves clothed with the decorations of their rank, at the door of the Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem, of the Grand Chapter of the Knights of the Black Eagle, or of the Consistory of the Princes Adepts, or of any other body, as the case may be, and will be there received with all the honors due them, and everywhere enjoy their privileges and prerogatives.

Whenever an Inspector or his Deputy, or any other Knight Prince Mason, visits a Lodge of Royal Perfection, or other Lodge, the Puissant Grand Master or the Worshipful Master of a Symbolic Lodge will send out five officers, dignitaries, to introduce the Prince Inspector or his Deputy, with all the honors as prescribed in the following article.

ARTICLE XXXI.

The Princes of Jerusalem being the valiant Princes of the Renovated Masonry, they will be received with all the honors, and will enjoy all their

privileges, in all Lodges and Chapters, as well as in all Councils of Knights of the East, whereinto they will make their triumphant entry in the following manner :

1st. The Princes of Jerusalem have the right to annul and revoke whatever may have been transacted in a Council of Knights of the East, in Royal Lodges of Perfection, or in other Lodges of whatever degree, such bodies not having conformed to the decisions and laws of the Order, provided, however, that no Sublime Prince of a higher grade is present.

2d. When a Prince of Jerusalem is announced as such at the door of a Royal Lodge or a Chapter, or of any other Lodge, with the documents and decorations that prove him to be such, or when he is known as such by some Prince of the same degree, the Master or Thrice Puissant Grand Master will send four officers, dignitaries, to introduce and accompany him.

He will enter, wearing his hat or helmet, his drawn sword in his right hand, as for combat, buckler on his left arm, and even cuirassed, if fully clothed with his insignia and decorations. When the Prince Visitor, thus entering, is in the West, between the Wardens, and accompanied by the four delegates of the Lodge, he will salute, first the Master, second the North, third the South, and lastly the two Wardens.

Immediately after this ceremony he will give the sign of the degree in which the body is working, which will be repeated by the Master and all the Brethren together, and then the Master will say, "To order, Brethren !" Instantly all the Brethren on the North and South will together form the "arch of steel" with their naked swords, or with their lances, or, if they have none, with their outstretched arms, under which the Valorous Prince will pass with a grave step, until he comes to the Master, who will offer him the scepter, which he may accept or decline in appropriate words, and in either case the work proceeds. The Master will then report to him in regard to the work and all that concerns the Order.

If the Valorous Prince desires to retire before the Lodge is closed, he will so inform the Master or Thrice Puissant, who will thank him for his visit, invite him to frequently repeat it, and tender him all the services in his power ; and after this compliment the Master will give one rap and say, "To order, Brethren !" This will be repeated by each Warden, and all the Brethren on the North and South will form the "arch of steel, " as before, under which the Valorous Prince, after saluting the Master, will pass, his

naked sword in his hand as upon his entrance. When between the two Wardens he will face to the East, and salute the Master, the North, the South, and each Warden in succession.

Then, still accompanied by the four delegates, he will retire from the Lodge, the doors standing wide open as when he entered. The four delegates having re-entered, the work will be resumed.

3d. Princes of Jerusalem cannot exercise their privileges when a Prince Adept, Chevalier Noachite or Sovereign Prince of the Royal Secret is present, but they may be received with all the honors if the Sublime Princes present consent.

4th. When present in a Lodge, Princes of Jerusalem will be addressed as *Valiant Princes*; Knights Adept as *Sovereign Princes*; Knights of the Royal Secret as *Illustrious Sovereigns of the Sovereign Sublime Princes*; and Knights of the East as *Excellent Brothers-Knights*. A Knight of the East will have the right, when a Prince of Jerusalem is not present, to require a full account of all that has been done in the Lodge, to see whether the Constitutions are regular and in form, to reconcile matters among the Brethren, if there be coldness or contention among them, and to exclude those who obstinately refuse to submit, and any who will not pay obedience to the Statutes and Laws as prescribed in our Secret and other Constitutions, whether in a Lodge of Perfection or a Symbolic Lodge.

5th. The Valorous Princes of Jerusalem and the Knights of the East may sit covered during the labors of a Lodge of Perfection or Symbolic Lodge; however, they can only enjoy their privileges when legally known and recognized, and when clothed with the decorations and insignia of their rank.

6th. Five Valiant Princes of Jerusalem may form a Council of Knights of the East wherever none has been established. They will be invested with judicial power, but are required to give an account of their work to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and to the nearest Grand Inspector or his Deputy, in writing. They are invested as Judges by the powers conferred upon their illustrious predecessors by the people of Jerusalem, upon their return from their embassy to Babylon.

ARTICLE XXXII.

To establish among all the Subordinate Councils, and among all the Illustrious Knights Prince-Masons a regular system of correspondence, they

will send every year to the Sovereign Grand Consistory and to each Subordinate Council a general statement of all the Subordinate Councils regularly constituted, and of the names of the officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes, giving information during the year of any important changes that may take place.

ARTICLE XXXIII.

To maintain order and discipline, the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret will meet but once a year, to proceed in their Masonic labors (initiations). At such meeting *there will be admitted to the Sublime and last degree of Masonry no more than three of the oldest Knights Adepts* who will be proclaimed in the Grand Lodge of Grand Elect Perfect Masters, also in Council, Chapter, etc.

ARTICLE XXXIV.

Feast-Days, which the Knight Prince-Masons and Valorous Princes of Jerusalem are bound specially to celebrate :

1st. The 20th of November, the memorable day upon which their ancestors made their entry into Jerusalem.

2d. The 23d of February, a day of thanksgiving to the Lord, for the rebuilding of the Temple.

3d. The Knights of the East will celebrate as Holy Days the anniversaries of the rebuilding of the Temple of God, the 22d of March and the 22d of September, the equinoctical days, when the days and nights respectively begin to lengthen and shorten, and to commemorate the fact that the Temple was twice builded. All Prince-Masons are bound to attend the Council of the East to celebrate these days ; and the body must, upon such occasions, be opened in due form.

4th. The Grand Elect Perfect (Masons) will also celebrate in a special manner the anniversary of the dedication of the First Temple on the 5th day of the third month corresponding with our month of July, on which occasion the Knights and Prince-Masons are to wear all their decorations.

ARTICLE XXXV.

A Subordinate Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret cannot consist of more than fifteen members, including the officers.

Every year, on St. John the Evangelist's day, each Subordinate Consistory must elect nine officers, not including the President ; he is always to serve three years.

1st. The Lieutenant-Commander, who presides in the absence of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

2d. The Grand Warden, who presides in the absence of the two former.

3d. The Grand Keeper of the Seals, or Grand Secretary.

4th. The Grand Treasurer.

5th. The Grand Captain of the Guards.

6th. The Grand Orator, or Minister of State.

7th. The Grand Usher.

8th. The Grand Master Architect, or Engineer.

9th. The Grand Hospitaller.

All the other members, united under the orders of the Sovereign of the Sovereign Princes, or his Lieutenant-Commander, remain without change ; and no member can be admitted if thereby the number will exceed fifteen in all.

The Grand Council is subject to the Grand Inspector or his Deputy, as its Chief, to be recognized as such on all occasions ; and it is subordinate to the Sovereign Consistory in whatever concerns the Royal Art, both in the high and the inferior degrees.

The Sovereign of the Sovereign Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, of the Royal and Military Order of the Most Worshipful Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, have determined, and do resolve, that these present Statutes, Regulations and Constitutions shall be observed.

And we do order our Grand Inspectors and their Deputies to cause them to be read and received, as well in all Subordinate Councils, Chapters and Royal Lodges, as in all other bodies whatsoever.

Done at the Grand Orient of *Berlin*,* under the Celestial Canopy, the day and year aforesaid.

Appended to the Constitutions, and made a part of them, as given in the "Recueil des Actes," is the following :

* So in the old manuscript. The copy in the "Receuil des Acts," and Bro. Pike's version have Bordeaux instead of Berlin.

INSTITUTES.

Article I. The Grand Inspectors-General of the Order, and Presidents of the Sublime Councils of Princes of High Masonry, duly recognized and patented, are by imprescriptible title the Chiefs of High Masonry.

Article II. The tribunal that directs the administration of High Masonry, and constitutes the different dependent degrees thereof, is styled the GRAND CONSISTORY.

Article III. The Grand Inspectors-General, and the Presidents of the Grand Councils of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, are life members of the Grand Consistory.

Article IV. The Grand Consistory is composed of the Grand Inspectors of the Order, of the Presidents of the Councils of the Sublime Princes, and of twenty-one of the oldest of the Sublime Princes, taken in the order of priority of reception as such.

Article V. All Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret are entitled to be present in the assemblies of the Grand Consistory, and to partake in its deliberations.

Article VI. The Grand Consistory is invested with all power in regard to the doctrine of High Masonry.

Article VII. Twelve Grand Officers selected from among the Grand Inspectors-General, the Presidents of the Councils and the Sublimè Princes, and those Sublime Princes who are members of the Grand Consistory, compose the Corps of Dignitaries of that Grand body, to wit :

- 1st. The Sovereign Grand Commander.
- 2d. The Lieutenant Grand Commander.
- 3d. The Second Lieutenant Grand Commander.
- 4th. The Minister of State.
- 5th. The Grand Chancellor.
- 6th. The Treasurer-General.
- 7th. The Grand Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
- 8th. The Grand Master of Ceremonies.
- 9th. The Grand Expert Introducer.
- 10th. The Grand Expert Standard Bearer.
- 11th. The Grand Captain of the Guards.
- 12th. The Grand Hospitaller.

Article VIII. Every Grand Council of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, and every Council of Grand Elect Kadosh, is entitled to be represented in the Grand Consistory by a Deputy, who must be selected from among the Sublime Princes, duly patented and recognized.

Article IX. The Sovereign Grand Commander, or in his absence and by his authorization, the First Lieutenant Grand Commander, or in his absence the Second Lieutenant Grand Commander, are the only persons who can convoke and preside over the Grand Consistory; and if the special case should occur that all these three Grand Officers are out of the jurisdiction at the same time, then, and always by special authorization, some one of the Grand Officers shall be appointed in their stead, the nomination being made in a meeting of the Grand Consistory, specially convoked.

Article X. In a meeting of the Grand Consistory, specially convoked, seven members, including the Grand Commander or one of his Lieutenants, may open the work, and the proceedings will be legal, but under no pretext can any business be done with a less number.

To this are appended in the "Recueil des Actes" copy, the Statutes, General Regulations, Instructions, etc. As they are largely made up of a repetition of matters from the Constitutions, I omit this part.

The whole concludes as follows :

In the fullness of their wisdom and power, the Chiefs and true protectors of High Masonry have decreed and established the present Institutes, Statutes and General Regulations, to be at all points kept and observed according to their own form and tenor.

Given at the Central Point of the True Light the 20th day of the 2d month Ijar, of the year of the world 5732.

Collated and signed,

ADDINGTON,

Grand Chancellor.

THE GRAND CONSTITUTIONS OF 1786,

OR

CONSTITUTIONS OF FREDERICK THE GREAT

OF THE

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

OF

THIRTY-THREE DEGREES.

CONSTITUTIONS OF 1786.

INTRODUCTORY.

BY ENOCH T. CARSON, 33°.

The Constitutions of 1762 and the Grand Constitutions of 1786 is the organic law upon which the whole superstructure of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite rests. Those of 1786 never appeared entire in English print until they were edited and translated by me, and printed and published as an appendix to the proceedings of the Northern Supreme Council in 1869.

They were first printed entire in French by authority of the Supreme Council of France in the "*Recueil des Actes du Supreme Conseil*," 8vo, Paris, 1832.

Previous to that time they had been a sealed book to all except the Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the thirty-third degree, and others who might have obtained manuscript copies of [them in a surreptitious manner. Manuscript copies of them were extant in the archives of the various Supreme Councils, and in the possession of individual Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the thirty-third degree. Fragmentary extracts from them had appeared in print in various publications, both in Europe and America.

The Constitutions published by our Supreme Council in 1869 were compiled, translated, and edited by me, from several manuscript copies in French, the English manuscript in our own Supreme Council, those in the "*Recueil des Actes*" and fragmentary parts of the same from various sources, French and English. The present copy is edited and compiled from several copies, printed and manuscript, but more especially from the old manuscript copy now in the archives of our Supreme Council. They were the only Constitutions known to the founders and fathers of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the Northern Jurisdiction. It is equally evident that they were the only Constitutions known to the "Mother Supreme Council" in Charleston, South Carolina, when it, "the first Supreme Council in the world," was born. They were also the "baptismal Constitutions" in the use at the birth of the Supreme Council of France in 1804. No man or body of men can truthfully refute these statements! The copy now printed is almost the same as that contained in the "*Recueil des Actes*." There are, however, some variations.

CONSTITUTIONS, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

Supreme Council of Inspectors General

OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE.

And for all Councils and Consistories under their jurisdiction. Made and approved in the Supreme Council of the 33d degree, duly and legally established and constituted at the Grand Orient of Berlin, the first day of May, *Anno Lucis* 5785, and of the Christian Era, 1786.

At which Supreme Council was present in person his most August Majesty, Frederick II., King of Prussia, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.

In the name of the Most Holy Grand Architect of the Universe, Ordo ab Chao, the Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General, in Supreme Council assembled, ordain and declare the following Constitutions and Regulations for the Government of Masonic Councils under their jurisdiction.

ARTICLE I.

The Constitutions and Regulations, made by the nine Commissioners nominated by the Grand Council of the Princes of the Royal Secret in the year 1762, shall be strictly adhered to and executed in all their points, except wherein they may conflict with the articles of the present Constitution.

ARTICLE II.

The thirty-third degree, called Sovereign Grand Inspector-General or Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree, is formed and organized as follows: The Inspector first receiving this degree is hereby authorized and empowered to give it to another Brother, who shall be duly worthy of it by his character and his degrees, and shall receive his obligation.

These two together give it in the same manner to a third ; then they admit the others by their votes given *viva voce*, beginning by the youngest Inspector. A single negative vote will exclude an aspirant forever, *if the reasons given are deemed sufficient*.

ARTICLE III.

The first two who receive this degree in any country whatever shall be the presiding officers. In case of death, resignation, or absence from the country (not to return), of the first officer, the second shall take his place, and will appoint an Inspector to succeed to his own place.

If the second officer should die, resign, or leave the country forever, the first officer will appoint another Inspector-General to succeed him.

The Most Puissant Sovereign shall in like manner appoint the Illustrious Treasurer, the Secretary-General of the Holy Empire, the Illustrious Grand Master of Ceremonies, the Illustrious Captain of the Guards, and shall also fill all the vacancies that may afterwards occur.*

ARTICLE IV.

Every inspector who shall be initiated into this sublime degree shall pay in advance, into the hands of the Illustrious Treasurer-General, the sum of ten guineas (\$46.66 $\frac{2}{3}$).† A like sum shall be exacted from those who shall receive the grade of Knight Kadosh, or of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, which sums shall be for use of the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE V.

Every Supreme Council is composed of nine [Inspectors-General, at least FIVE OF WHOM MUST PROFESS THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.‡ Three members, if the Most Puissant Sovereign *or* the Lieutenant Illustrious Inspector-General is present, shall form a quorum and complete Council for the transaction of business.

* In the Latin Constitutions the Most Puissant Monarch (?) also appoints the Minister of State and *all* the other officers.

† The Recueil des Actes copy says : " La somme de dix louis de 24 livre tournois." .

The Latin Constitutions say : " Ten Fredericks-d'or, ten Louis-d'or of the old issue."

‡ The Latin Constitutions say : " Of whom at least four *ought* to profess the prevailing religion." A very great difference between the two.

There shall be but one Council of this degree in each nation or kingdom in Europe, TWO IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, as far removed from each other as possible, one in the British West Indies, and one in the French West India Islands. §

ARTICLE VI.

The power of the Supreme Council does not interfere in any degree *below* the seventeenth, or Knight of the East and West ; but every Council and Lodge of Perfect Masons are hereby required to recognize them in the character of Inspectors-General, and to receive them with all the honors that are due them.*

ARTICLE VII.

All Councils or individuals above the Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem may bring their appeal to the Supreme Council, and, in this case, they may appear and be heard in person *in the Supreme Council*. †

ARTICLE VIII.

The Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret *shall* elect a President from among its own members, ‡ but none of its acts shall be valid until they have been approved by the Supreme Council of the

§ The Latin Constitutions read : “ In the States and Provinces, as well on the Continent as in the Islands, whereof North America consists, there will be *two* Councils, one at as great a distance from the other as may be possible.”

“ Also in the States and Provinces, whether on the Continent or in the islands whereof South America consists, there will likewise be two Councils, one at as great a distance from the other as may be possible.”

This was probably fabricated by Hicks in 1834–36. He was the Most Potent Sov. Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Most Potent Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Sublime Chiefs of Exalted Masonry for the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, their territories and dependencies, etc., etc., sitting at the Orient of the World (New York) ! The object was to crowd out the Southern Supreme Council. The fraud and forgery should be apparent to any one familiar with the history of Scottish Rite Masonry in this country. Hicks took to himself the mainland, leaving the islands for conquest.

* The corresponding articles of the Latin Constitutions is quite different, giving much more power to the 33ds.

† The Latin Constitutions say: “ They (Council and Masons) have the right of appeal to the Supreme Council, which *may* permit the appellants personally to appear before it, etc.” This is quite different.

‡ The Latin Constitutions say: “ *May* elect one of its own degree to be its President.”

Thirty-third degree, which, after the decease of his Majesty, Frederick the Second, *present§ King of Prussia*, is Sovereign of Freemasonry.

ARTICLE IX.

No Deputy Inspector can exercise his powers in any country where a Supreme Council of Inspectors-General is already established, unless he is approved by such Supreme Council.

ARTICLE X.

No Deputy Inspector heretofore received, or who may be received hereafter, by virtue of this Constitution, shall have the power of granting certificates, or giving the degree of Knight Kadosh, or the grades above that.

ARTICLE XI.

The degrees of Knight Kadosh, and that of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, shall never be given except in the presence of three Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General.

ARTICLE XII.

The Supreme Council shall exercise all the Sovereign Masonic powers with which his August Majesty, Frederick II., King of Prussia *is now*, and has been possessed since the year 1762,* and whenever it may become necessary to protest against the Patents or Deputy Inspectors as illegal, information thereof shall be sent to all the Supreme Councils in the world.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third degree is authorized to depute one of its own members to establish a Council of the said degree in any country designated by the present Constitution, he being required to conduct himself in conformity to Article 2.

These Deputies shall also have the power to grant patents to the Deputy Inspectors-General, who must have received the degree of Kadosh, to

§ *Present*, so in the old manuscript. This is in perfect harmony with the words, "*is now*," as used in Article 12.

* So in the old manuscript. The *Recueil des Actes* copy has it: "Tous les Souverains pouvoirs Maconniques dont sa Majeste, Frederick II., roi de Prusse, *etait revetu*." Undoubtedly the old manuscript is the correct reading.

establish Lodges and Councils of the superior degrees up to the Knight of the Sun, or twentieth-ninth degree, inclusive,† in a country where no Sublime Lodge or Council shall have been already established.

The manuscript of the degree shall not be given to any other Inspector than to the first two officers of the Supreme Council or to a Brother Inspector going into a distant country to establish this degree.

ARTICLE XIV.

In all processions of the Sublime degrees, the Supreme Council will march last, and the first two officers shall march last of all ; the Grand Standard Bearer of the Order will immediately precede them.

ARTICLE XV.

The meetings of the Supreme Council shall be held every third new moon, but it shall meet oftener if occasion requires it for the despatch of business.

There are two feasts in the year, one on the 1st of October, when our property was sequestered and given to the Knights of Malta,‡ and the other the 27th of December, the Feast of the Masonic Order.§

ARTICLE XVI.

Every Inspector-General of the Thirty-third degree shall be furnished with titles of credence, according to the forms expressed in this degree, for which he shall pay to the Secretary-General of the Holy Empire one guinea,|| for his services in affixing the seals, and a Louis to the Council to assist it in paying its expenses.

The Grand Seal of the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree is a large Black Eagle, with two heads, the beak of gold, the wings displayed, grasping a naked sword in its talons ; upon a scroll underneath are inscribed the words, “DEUS MEUMQUE JUS,” and above the eagle on a scroll the words, “SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE 33D DEGREE.”

† The Recueil des Actes copy says: “Au-dessus (above) Chevalier du Soleil.”

‡ The property of the Templars.

§ This Article in the Latin Constitutions is quite different.

|| The Recueil des Actes copy says: “Un louis.” The Latin Constitutions say: “One Fred-eric-d’or or old Louis d’or.”

ARTICLE XVII.

An Inspector-General possesses no individual power in a country, where a Supreme Council is established, because a majority of its votes are necessary to legalize the proceedings, except by virtue of a special patent, granted by the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE XVIII.

All money arising from initiations in the Councils, *above* the Princes of Jerusalem, shall go into the treasury of the Supreme Council.*

* The corresponding article of the Latin Constitutions is much more elaborate in its details.